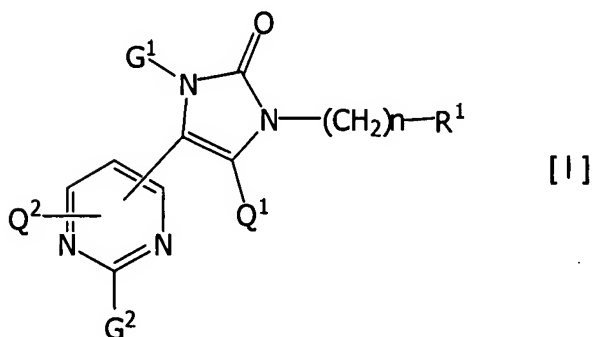
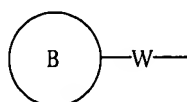


# AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended). A compound of the formula [I]:



wherein G¹ is ~~an alkyl which is substituted by a halogen atom or an alkoxy, or a group of the~~  
 formula:



wherein ring B is benzene ring, naphthalene ring, ~~a monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic heterocycle~~  
 or a cycloalkane, and the benzene ring, the naphthalene ring, ~~the monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic~~  
~~heterocycle~~ and the cycloalkane may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s), which is(are) the  
 same or different, and selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, nitro, an optionally  
 substituted alkyl, an optionally substituted alkoxy, an optionally substituted amino, an optionally  
 substituted carbamoyl, hydroxy and cyano,

W is a single bond, or a  $e_4-e_4$ -C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene which may be substituted by 1 or 2 alkyl(s),

Q¹ and Q² may be the same or different, and each is hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or an alkyl,  
 n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

$R^1$  is hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted alkyl, an optionally substituted cycloalkyl, an optionally substituted phenyl or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group,

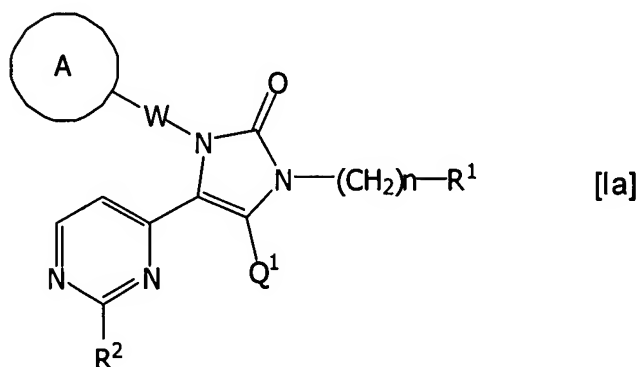
~~$Z^1, Z^2, Z^3$  and  $Z^4$  may be the same or different, and each is CH or N, provided that 3 or more of  $Z^1, Z^2, Z^3$  and  $Z^4$  should not be N at the same time,~~

$G^2$  is hydrogen atom,  $-NR^3R^4$ ,  $-OR^5$ ,  $-SR^5$ ,  $-COR^6$ , or  $-CHR^7R^8$ , ~~or a heterocyclic group,~~

where  $R^3$  to  $R^8$  each independently is hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted alkyl, an alkenyl, an alkynyl, hydroxy, an alkoxy, an optionally substituted amino, an optionally substituted alkanoyl, an optionally substituted carbamoyl, an alkoxyoxalyl, an alkylsulfonyl, an optionally substituted cycloalkyl, an optionally substituted phenyl, an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, a carbonyl substituted by an optionally substituted cycloalkyl, a carbonyl substituted by an optionally substituted phenyl or a carbonyl substituted by an optionally substituted heterocyclic group,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Currently Amended). A compound of the formula [Ia]:



wherein ring A is benzene ring ~~or a monocyclic aromatic heterocycle~~, and the benzene ring ~~and the monocyclic aromatic heterocycle~~ may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s), which is(are)

the same or different, and selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, nitro, an optionally substituted alkyl, an optionally substituted alkoxy, an optionally substituted amino, an optionally substituted carbamoyl, hydroxy and cyano,

$Q^1$  is hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or an alkyl,

W is a single bond, or  $a-e_1-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkylene which may be substituted by 1 or 2 alkyl(s),

n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

$R^1$  is hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted alkyl, an optionally substituted cycloalkyl, an optionally substituted phenyl or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group,

Z is CH or N,

$R^2$  is hydrogen atom,  $-NR^3R^4$ ,  $-OR^5$ ,  $-COR^6$  or  $-CHR^7R^8$ ,

where  $R^3$  to  $R^8$ , each independently is hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted alkyl, an alkenyl, an alkynyl, hydroxy, an alkoxy, an optionally substituted amino, an optionally substituted alkanoyl, an optionally substituted carbamoyl, an alkoxyoxalyl, an alkylsulfonyl, an optionally substituted cycloalkyl, an optionally substituted phenyl, an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, a carbonyl substituted by an optionally substituted cycloalkyl, a carbonyl substituted by an optionally substituted phenyl or a carbonyl substituted by an optionally substituted heterocyclic group,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. (Original) The compound according to Claim 2, wherein  $Q^1$  is hydrogen atom, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (Original) The compound according to Claim 2, wherein the ring A is a benzene ring which may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituent(s), which is(are) the same or different, and selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, nitro, an optionally substituted alkyl, an optionally substituted alkoxy, an optionally substituted amino and cyano, and W is a single bond, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. (Original) The compound according to Claim 2, wherein n is 0 or 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof

6. (Original) The compound according to Claim 2, wherein (1) n is 0 and R<sup>1</sup> is an optionally substituted alkyl, (2) n is 1 and R<sup>1</sup> is an optionally substituted cycloalkyl, (3) n is 1 and R<sup>1</sup> is an optionally substituted phenyl, (4) n is 1 and R<sup>1</sup> is an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, (5) n is 0 and R<sup>1</sup> is an optionally substituted cycloalkyl, and (6) n is 0 and R<sup>1</sup> is an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. (Original) The compound according to Claim 2, wherein R<sup>2</sup> is -NR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup> or -OR<sup>5</sup>, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. (Original) The compound according to Claim 2, wherein R<sup>2</sup> is -NHR<sup>4</sup>, and R<sup>4</sup> is an optionally substituted alkyl, an alkenyl, an optionally substituted alkanoyl, an optionally substituted carbamoyl, an optionally substituted cycloalkyl, an optionally substituted phenyl, an

optionally substituted heterocyclic group, a carbonyl substituted by an optionally substituted cycloalkyl or a carbonyl substituted by an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, wherein the ring A is a benzene ring which may be substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s), which is(are) the same or different, and selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, an optionally substituted alkyl, an optionally substituted alkoxy, an optionally substituted amino and cyano, W is a single bond, n is 0 or 1, R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted alkyl, an optionally substituted cycloalkyl, an optionally substituted phenyl or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, Z is CH or N, R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen atom, -NR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup>, -OR<sup>5</sup>, -COR<sup>6</sup> or -CHR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>,

Where R<sup>3</sup> to R<sup>8</sup> each independently is hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted alkyl, an alkenyl, an alkoxy, an optionally substituted alkanoyl, an optionally substituted carbamoyl, an alkoxyoxalyl, an optionally substituted cycloalkyl, an optionally substituted phenyl, an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, a carbonyl substituted by an optionally substituted cycloalkyl or a carbonyl substituted by an optionally substituted heterocyclic group,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 3, wherein the ring A is a benzene ring which may be substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s), which is(are) the same or different, and selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, an alkyl optionally substituted by halogen(s), an alkoxy, an amino optionally substituted by alkyl(s) and cyano,

W is a single bond,

n is 0 or 1,

R<sup>1</sup> is (1) hydrogen atom,

(2) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of phenyl, an alkoxy, an alkylamino, a dialkylamino, an alkanoylamino, an alkylsulfonylamino, a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s), hydroxy, carboxy and cyano,

(3) a cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (v):

(i) hydroxy,

(ii) an alkoxy optionally substituted by alkoxy(s),

(iii) an amino optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, an alkanoyl and an alkylsulfonyl,

(iv) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s), and

(v) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, an alkoxy and amino,

(4) a phenyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (vi):

- (i) a halogen atom,
  - (ii) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, hydroxy and phenylsulfonyl,
  - (iii) cyano,
  - (iv) an alkoxy,
  - (v) an amino optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl and an alkylsulfonyl,
  - (vi) a carbonyl substituted by a heterocyclic group, or
- (5) a heterocyclic group optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (iv):
- (i) an alkoxycarbonyl,
  - (ii) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, an alkoxy and a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
  - (iii) an alkanoyl and
  - (iv) an alkylsulfonyl,

Z is CH or N,

$R^2$  is hydrogen atom,  $-NR^3R^4$ ,  $-OR^5$ ,  $-COR^6$  or  $-CHR^7R^8$ ,

where  $R^3$  to  $R^8$  each independently is:

- (1) hydrogen atom,
- (2) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (vii):
  - (i) hydroxy,

- (ii) an alkoxy,
  - (iii) an amino optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, an alkanoyl and an alkylsulfonyl,
  - (iv) an alkoxycarbonyl,
  - (v) a cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following a) to g):
    - a) hydroxy,
    - b) an amino optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
    - c) an alkanoylamino,
    - d) an alkylsulfonylamino,
    - e) an alkyl ~~optionally~~ optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, an alkoxy, amino, a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
    - f) carboxy and
    - g) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
  - (vi) a phenyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, an alkoxy and morpholinylcarbonyl, and
  - (vii) a heterocyclic group optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
- (3) an alkenyl,
- (4) an alkoxy,
- (5) an alkanoyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (iv):



- (i) hydroxy,
  - (ii) an alkoxy,
  - (iii) an amino optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl and an alkanoyl,
  - (iv) an alkoxycarbonyl,
- (6) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
- (7) an alkoxyoxalyl,
- (8) a cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (vii):
- (i) a halogen atom,
  - (ii) hydroxy,
  - (iii) an alkoxy,
  - (iv) an amino optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, an alkanoyl, an alkoxycarbonyl and an alkylsulfonyl,
  - (v) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, an alkoxy, amino, a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
  - (vi) an alkanoyloxy and
  - (vii) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
- (9) a phenyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom and an alkoxy,
- (10) a heterocyclic group optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (vii):

(i) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of phenyl, hydroxy, an alkoxy, amino and a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

(ii) an alkoxy carbonyl,

(iii) an alkanoyl,

(iv) an alkylsulfonyl,

(v) oxo,

(vi) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

(vii) an aminosulfonyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

(11) a carbonyl substituted by a cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino and an alkanoylamino, or

(12) a heterocyclic group-substituted carbonyl,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3, wherein the ring A is a benzene ring which may be substituted by 1 or 2 substituent(s), which is(are) the same or different, and selected from the group consisting of fluorine atom, chlorine atom, an alkyl optionally substituted by halogen(s) and an alkoxy,

W is a single bond,

n is 0 or 1,

R<sup>1</sup> is (1) hydrogen atom,

(2) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of phenyl, an alkoxy, an alkylamino, a dialkylamino, an alkanoylamino, an alkylsulfonylamino, a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s), hydroxy, carboxy, cyano, and cycloalkyl,

(3) a cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (v):

(i) hydroxy,

(ii) an alkoxy optionally substituted by alkoxy(s),

(iii) an amino optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, an alkanoyl and an alkylsulfonyl,

(iv) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

(v) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and amino,

(4) a phenyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (iv):

(i) a halogen atom,

(ii) an alkyl optionally substituted by halogen atom(s),

(iii) cyano, and

(iv) an alkoxy, or

(5) a heterocyclic group optionally substituted by alkylsulfonyl or alkanoyl,

Z is CH or N,

R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen atom, -NR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup>, -OR<sup>5</sup>, or -COR<sup>6</sup>,

Where  $R^3$  to  $R^6$  each independently is:

- (1) hydrogen atom,
- (2) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (vii):

- (i) hydroxy,
- (ii) an alkoxy,
- (iii) an alkoxycarbonyl,
- (iv) a cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following a) to e):
  - a) hydroxy,
  - b) an amino optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
  - c) an alkanoylamino,
  - d) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino and a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s), and
  - e) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
- (v) a phenyl optionally substituted by alkoxy(s),
- (vi) a heterocyclic group, and
- (vii) an amino optionally substituted by the group(s) selected from alkanoyl(s) and alkylsulfonyl(s),

- (3) an alkenyl,

- (4) an alkoxy,

(5) an alkanoyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkoxy, an amino optionally substituted by alkanoyl(s), and an alkoxycarbonyl,

(6) a cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (v):

(i) hydroxy,

(ii) an alkoxy,

(iii) an amino optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, an alkanoyl, an alkoxycarbonyl and an alkylsulfonyl,

(iv) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino and a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

(v) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

(7) a heterocyclic group optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (vi):

(i) an alkyl optionally substituted by phenyl(s),

(ii) an alkoxycarbonyl,

(iii) an alkylsulfonyl

(iv) an alkanoyl,

(v) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s), and

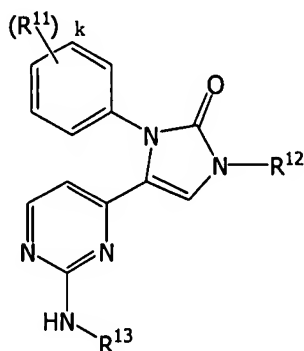
(vi) an aminosulfonyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

(8) a carbonyl substituted by a cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and amino, or

(9) a heterocyclic group-substituted carbonyl,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula [Ib]:



wherein  $R^{11}$  is a group selected from the group consisting of hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a  $e_4$ - $e_4$ - $C_{1-4}$  alkyl optionally substituted by halogen(s) and a  $e_4$ - $e_4$ - $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy,

$k$  is 1 or 2, and when  $k$  is 2, two of  $R^{11}$ s may be the same or different,

$R^{12}$  is (1) a  $e_4$ - $e_5$ - $C_{1-5}$  alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, an alkoxy, cyano, amino, tetrahydropyranyl, tetrahydrofuryl and a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

(2) a  $e_3$ - $e_4$ - $C_{3-4}$  cycloalkylmethyl,

(3) a  $e_3$ - $e_4$ - $C_{3-4}$  cycloalkyl,

(4) carbamoylmethyl,

(5) a benzyl ~~optionally~~ optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of cyano, a halogen atom, a  $e_4$ - $e_3$ - $C_{1-3}$  alkoxy, a  $e_4$ - $e_3$ - $C_{1-3}$  alkyl and a halogen-substituted  $e_4$ - $e_3$ - $C_{1-3}$  alkyl,

(6) tetrahydropyranyl,

(7) tetrahydrofuryl, and

(8) a piperidyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, an alkanoyl, an alkylsulfonyl, an alkoxycarbonyl and a carbamoylalkyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

~~Z<sup>5</sup> is CH or N,~~

R<sup>13</sup> is (1) a e<sub>4</sub>-e<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (xiv):

(i) a e<sub>5</sub>-e<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following a) to e):

a) hydroxy

b) an amino optionally substituted by e<sub>4</sub>-e<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl(s),

c) a e<sub>4</sub>-e<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkanoylamino,

d) a e<sub>4</sub>-e<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino, and a carbamoyl optionally substituted by e<sub>4</sub>-e<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl(s), and

e) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by e<sub>4</sub>-e<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl(s),

(ii) hydroxy,

(iii) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by e<sub>4</sub>-e<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl(s),

(iv) a piperidyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, an alkanoyl, an alkylsulfonyl and oxo,

(v) a pyrrolidinyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, an alkanoyl, an alkylsulfonyl and oxo,

(vi) a tetrahydropyranlyl optionally substituted by hydroxy(s),

(vii) an imidazolinyll optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl and oxo,

(viii) an imidazolidinyll optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl and oxo,

(ix) a piperadinyll optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl and oxo,

(x) a hexahydropyrimidinyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl and oxo,

(xi) a pyridyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

(xii) furyl,

(xiii) tetrahydroisothiazolyl optionally substituted by oxo(s), and

(xiv) an amino optionally substituted by the group(s) selected from alkanoyl(s) and alkylsulfonyl(s),

(2) a  $e_5-e_7-C_5-C_7$  cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (v):

(i) hydroxy,

(ii) a  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkoxy,

(iii) a  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino and a carbamoyl optionally substituted by  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkyl(s),

(iv) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkyl(s), and

(v) an amino optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkyl(s) and  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkylsulfonyl(s), or



(3) a heterocyclic group optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (vii):

(i) an alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of a halogen, amino, hydroxy, phenyl and oxo,

(ii) an aminosulfonyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

(iii) an alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted by halogen(s),

(iv) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by alkyl(s),

(v) hydroxy,

(vi) an alkoxycarbonyl, and

(vii) oxo,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 12, wherein R<sup>12</sup> is

(1) a  $e_4^- - e_5^- \underline{C}_1 - \underline{C}_5$  alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, alkoxy, tetrahydropyranyl and tetrahydrofuryl,

(2) a  $e_3^- - e_4^- \underline{C}_3 - \underline{C}_4$  cycloalkylmethyl,

(3) a  $e_3^- - e_4^- \underline{C}_3 - \underline{C}_4$  cycloalkyl,

(4) carbamoylmethyl,

(5) a benzyl ~~optionally~~ optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of cyano, a halogen atom, a  $e_4^- - e_3^- \underline{C}_1 - \underline{C}_3$  alkoxy, a  $e_4^- - e_3^- \underline{C}_1 - \underline{C}_3$  alkyl and a halogen-substituted  $e_4^- - e_3^- \underline{C}_1 - \underline{C}_3$  alkyl,

(6) tetrahydropyranyl,

(7) tetrahydrofuryl, or

(8) a piperidyl optionally substituted by alkylsulfonyl or alkanoyl,

$R^{13}$  is (1) a  $e_4-e_6-C_1-C_6$  alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (iv):

(i) a  $e_5-e_7-C_5-C_7$  cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following a) to e):

a) hydroxy

b) an amino optionally substituted by  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkyl(s),

c) a  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkanoylamino,

d) a  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino, and a carbamoyl optionally substituted by  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkyl(s), and

e) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkyl(s),

(ii) hydroxy,

(iii) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkyl(s), and

(iv) amino optionally substituted by the group(s) selected from alkanoyl(s) and alkylsulfonyl(s),

(2) a  $e_5-e_7-C_5-C_7$  cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (v):

(i) hydroxy,

(ii) a  $e_4-e_4-C_1-C_4$  alkoxy

(iii) a  $e_4^- - e_4 - C_1 - C_4$  alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino and a carbamoyl optionally substituted by  $e_4^- - e_4 - C_1 - C_4$  alkyl(s),

(iv) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by  $e_4^- - e_4 - C_1 - C_4$  alkyl(s), and

(v) an amino optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of  $e_4^- - e_4 - C_1 - C_4$  alkyl(s) and  $e_4^- - e_4 - C_1 - C_4$  alkylsulfonyl(s), or

(3) a heterocyclic group optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (vi):

- (i) alkylsulfonyl(s),
- (ii) alkoxycarbonyl(s),
- (iii) carbamoyl(s) optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
- (iv) alkanoyl(s),
- (v) aminosulfonyl(s) optionally substituted by alkyl(s), and
- (vi) alkyl(s)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 13, wherein  $R^{11}$  is a group selected from the group consisting of hydrogen atom, fluorine atom, chlorine atom, methyl, trifluoromethyl and methoxy,

k is 1 or 2, and when k is 2, two of  $R^{11}$ s may be the same or different,

$R^{12}$  is a  $e_4^- - e_5 - C_1 - C_5$  alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy, cyclopropylmethyl, cyclobutyl, carbamoylmethyl, tetrahydropyranyl, tetrahydrofuryl, tetrahydropyranylmethyl,

tetrahydrofurylmethyl or piperidyl optionally substituted by the group selected from  
alkylsulfonyl and alkanoyl,  
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 13, wherein R<sup>11</sup> is  
hydrogen atom, fluorine atom, chlorine atom, trifluoromethyl or methyl,  
k is 1,  
R<sup>12</sup> is ethyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, 2-hydroxy-2-methylpropyl, cyclopropylmethyl, cyclobutyl,  
carbamoylmethyl, 4-tetrahydropyranyl, 3-tetrahydrofuryl, tetrahydropyranylmethyl,  
tetrahydrofurylmethyl, methoxymethyl, 3-hydroxy-3-methylbutyl or 4-piperidyl substituted by  
methanesulfonyl or acetyl,

R<sup>13</sup> is (1) a e<sub>4</sub>-e<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group  
consisting of the following (i) and (iii):

(i) a e<sub>5</sub>-e<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group  
consisting of hydroxy, a hydroxy e<sub>4</sub>-e<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, a e<sub>4</sub>-e<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, amino and a  
carbamoyl optionally substituted by e<sub>4</sub>-e<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl(s),

(ii) hydroxy, and

(iii) an amino optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of alkyl(s)  
and alkylsulfonyl(s),

(2) a e<sub>5</sub>-e<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group  
consisting of the following (i) to (v):

(i) hydroxy,

- (ii) a  $e_4^- - e_4 - \underline{C}_1 - \underline{C}_4$  alkoxy
  - (iii) a  $e_4^- - e_4 - \underline{C}_1 - \underline{C}_4$  alkyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, amino and a carbamoyl optionally substituted by  $e_4^- - e_4 - \underline{C}_1 - \underline{C}_4$  alkyl(s),
  - (iv) a carbamoyl optionally substituted by  $e_4^- - e_4 - \underline{C}_1 - \underline{C}_4$  alkyl(s), and
  - (v) an amino optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of alkyl(s) and alkylsulfonyl(s),
- (3) piperidinyl optionally substituted by group(s) selected from the group consisting of the following (i) to (vi):
- (i) alkylsulfonyl(s),
  - (ii) alkoxycarbonyl(s),
  - (iii) carbamoyl(s) optionally substituted by alkyl(s),
  - (iv) alkanoyl(s),
  - (v) aminosulfonyl(s) optionally substituted by alkyl(s), and
  - (vi) alkyl(s)
- (4) pyrrolidinyl optionally substituted by alkylsulfonyl,
- or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

17.-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended). A method of ~~prophylaxis or treatment~~ for diseases selected from the group consisting of ~~arthritis~~ rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, gouty arthritis, synovitis, inflammatory bowel disease, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, inflammatory dermal disease, psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, contact dermatitis, inflammatory respiratory disease, asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, pleurisy, rhinitis, inflammatory optical disease, conjunctivitis, keratitis, uveitis, nephritis, hepatitis, systemic inflammatory disease, Behcet's syndrome, Systemic lupus erythematosus, shock, septic shock, cerebrovascular disease, brain hemorrhage, ischemic cardiac disease, ischemic heart disease, congestive heart failure, osteoporosis, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, malignant tumor, cachexia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, arterial sclerosis, disseminated intravascular coagulation syndrome, rejection and graft-versus-host diseases by organ transplantation, which comprises administering the compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to a human in need thereof.